

The African continent has over a billion inhabitants and of course was the cradle of civilization. In recent times some of the wisdom of its peoples has become better known by the rest of the world. Nelson Mandela's inspirational example will leave an indelible legacy for countless millions of people, not only those living today, but in the future.

Some of his wisdom is as follows:

- "A good head and a good heart make a formidable combination."
- "Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated and passionate about what they do."
- "Do not judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."
- "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

This man's immense influence on his fellow human beings throughout the world was above all due to the inspirational way he acted.

He was possibly driven by the African concept of 'ubuntu' i.e. humanity, kindness, compassion – being human in one's contacts with others. President Barack Obama referred to this concept in his address at the Memorial Ceremony following the death of Nelson Mandela.

In our Catholic schools we can use the 'ubuntu' concept to assist students in developing their understanding of how to treat others – it is easily linked to the Gospel imperative to love one another.

African migrants are increasingly taking their places in our nation's Catholic schools and adding to the richness of ethnic diversity our schools now represent. Many of them have a cultural richness that could be shared more widely in the school community, if they are given the opportunity to do so. Herein lies a challenge.

"Think of the tenderness that St Francis lived. Tenderness helps overcome conflicts."

Pope Francis

Greetings

Ki ngā tumuaki, kaiako, poari me ngā mātua, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō te wā nei.

We send you greetings and trust the year will go well for you.

The Catholic Education of School-Age Children

This new document by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference has recently been distributed to schools. It outlines the bishops' thoughts about the Catholic education network. It will stimulate much fruitful discussion and inspire many new initiatives. The document is available on the NZCBC website. <http://www.catholic.org.nz/nzcbc>, and there is a link on www.nzceo.org.nz.

New Zealand Catholic Education Convention, Wellington, 10-12 June 2015

Reminder: Mark your diaries, and begin to allocate funds for staff to attend.

Census Information

The NZCEO has information relating to Catholic young people in the 0-19 age group for all parts of New Zealand. For planning purposes it is important to know how many Catholic children are in your catchment area. Contact NZCEO for details of your area.

New Catholic App on iTunes

The free Catholic Social Teaching App is a product of the Ethics and Public Policy Centre in Washington, USA. It puts the social teaching of the Catholic Church in your hand, and keeps you up to date with Church news and commentary.

Congratulations to Those Appointed to their First Principalship in a Catholic School

Makere Karatea, Te Kura o Hato Hohepe at Kamura, Waitaruke
 Janice Borsos, Holy Cross School, Henderson
 Richard Truter, St Joseph's Catholic School, Dargaville
 Catherine Gunn, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Hamilton
 Yvonne Marshall, St Joseph's School, Matamata
 Andrew Pozniak, St Mary's School, Foxton
 John Kane, Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Sumner
 Kate Nicholson, St Peter's College, Gore
 Anne Canny, Trinity Schools, Southland
 Joanna McKay, Holy Family School, Wanaka.

Congratulations

- The Catholic Institute, on its first TCI quarterly newsletter. This is an excellent electronic publication.
- St Mary's School, Blenheim, and St Teresa's School, Karori, Wellington on their very fresh and appealing websites, where Catholic Character is really well represented. Visit www.stmb.school.nz and www.stteresas.ac.nz.
- Kieren Fouhy, Principal, St Peter's College, Auckland, on receiving a Papal Knighthood.
- School leaders contributing to Tui Motu: December 2013, Shaun Davison, DRS Pompallier College, Whangarei, 'Marc's Story'; February 2014, Graeme Mustchin, Chaplain, Francis Douglas Memorial College, New Plymouth, 'Making Connections', Sandy Pasley, Principal, Baradene College, Auckland, 'One Heart and Mind in Jesus' Heart', Peter Tolich, DRS, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Hamilton, 'Saint Ignatius of Loyola'.
- Caritas on the excellent resources supplied to schools for Lent 2014. This wonderful package can be utilised at any time of the year not just during Lent.

- Rebecca McGarry, new entrant teacher at St Joseph's School, Orakei, featured in the Education Gazette 25 November 2013 modelling for her students how to become an independent leader.
- Gordon Gallop, learner and teacher of Samoan at Baradene College, Auckland, featured in the Education Gazette 27 January 2014 in relation to the ILEP conference.
- At the end of 2012 100% of St Joseph's Maori Girls' College Year 11 to 13 students passed NCEA, and merit passes were well above the national average. The school's results were the best in five years, and gained a letter of commendation from the Minister of Education.

Congratulations to Teacher Graduates of The Catholic Institute

Diploma in Religious Studies: Sarah Campbell, Villa Maria College, Christchurch; Veronica Aislabie, John Paul II College, Rotorua; Josephine Barlow, Principal, St James School, Aranui, Christchurch; Cherie Boyd, St Joseph's Maori Girls' College, Taradale; Deborah Charleson, St Brigid's School, Dunedin; Gillian Cook, John Paul II College, Rotorua; Rosemary Grant, St Mark's School, Pakuranga, Auckland; Marie Hanton, St Joseph's School, Rangiora, Christchurch; Michelle Jadoo, Principal, St Mary's School, Avondale, Auckland; Lui Lafoo, Bishop Viard College, Porirua; Cynthia Paul, St Dominic's College, Auckland; Kelly-Ann Ross, Bishop Viard College, Porirua; Doug Robinson, St Joseph's School, Stratford; Kim Stephen, Garin College, Nelson; Arlene Wilkins, St Mary's School, Christchurch; Jacinta Wood, John Paul II College, Rotorua.

Certificate in Catechetical Studies: David Archibald, Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt; Lirissa Blommerde, St Joseph's School, Whakatane; Kristy Duncan, St Patrick's School, Paraparaumu; Alex Moffat-Wood, Catholic College, Rarotonga; Rachael Tyler, St Peter Chanel School, Te Rapa, Hamilton.

Death of Bishop John Mackey

Retired Catholic Bishop of Auckland, John Mackey, died on January 20th 2014. He played a huge part in the implementation of the ground-breaking Private Schools Conditional Integration Act legislation in 1975, working alongside the late Honourable Mervyn Wellington, the then Minister of Education. Bishop John Mackey was a man with a great mind linked to a deep humanity and a strong Catholic faith. May he rest in peace.

Congratulations to Early Childhood Educators

Catholic early childhood education has recently been featured in New Zealand Catholic. Congratulations to all responsible for this excellent information.

A group of Auckland and Hamilton early childhood teachers recently graduated from the inaugural certificate course in Catholic Early Childhood Education. Congratulations to those who developed and taught the course - the Catholic Church in New Zealand owes them deep gratitude for their visionary and pioneering work.

Graduates: Marian ECC Panmure: Trudi Lynch, Cyril Siasoco, Toby Chen, Maria Pane, Adelaide Tito. Cluny Kindergarten,

Remuera: Julie McClay, Lynnette Demegilio. St Peter Chanel ECC, Clover Park: Suhair Abdul Meseh. Fetu'u Moana ECC, Papatoetoe: Seini Stanley. St Mary's ECC, Avondale: Lisa Almeida. St Paul's ECC, Massey: Kim Jones, Kerry Koko, Karen Jones. Jubilee ECC, Hamilton: Lisa Vedder, Valerie Penrose, Angela Hodgkinson.

Microsoft Initiative

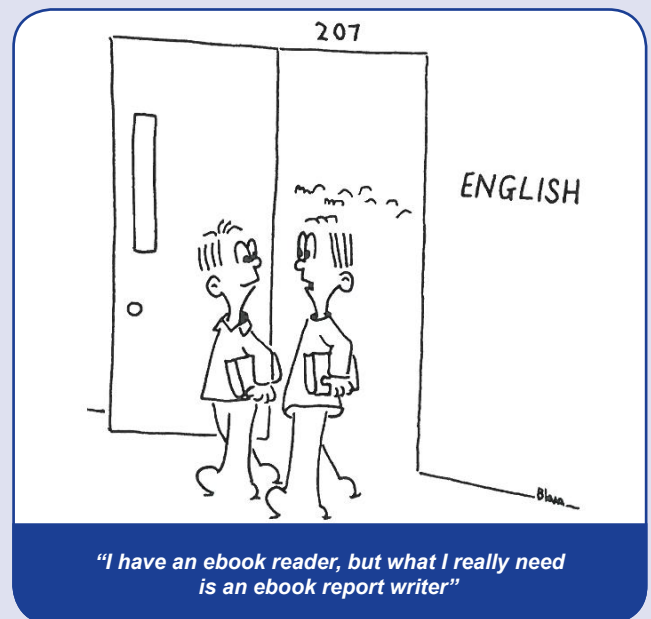
The Catholic Schools online environment initiative is now being piloted in four schools: St Dominic's School, Blockhouse Bay; Rosmini College, Auckland; Baradene College, Auckland and Monte Cecilia School, Hillsborough.

New Prayer Resource for Staff Meetings, 2014

Prayers for Staff Meetings Vol 4 is now available by email, from Rachele and Gabby Tullio. Visit www.prayers4gatherings.com, and email tullios@tpg.com.au to order a copy (A\$12).

Pope Francis Says...

"Are we truly cultivating and caring for creation? Or are we exploiting it or neglecting it? We are losing the attitude of wonder, contemplation, listening to creation." Pope Francis calls for commitment "to respect and care for creation, to be attentive to every person, to oppose the culture of wastefulness and waste, and to promote a culture of solidarity and encounter."



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"The Church is not a museum of saints, but a hospital for sinners."

Pope Francis